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but we could not proceed with the repair since the tank was full. It is even now full and repair can only be done after the water level goes down."

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SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" பத்து ஆண்டுகளாக அந்த எரிக்கு ரிப்பேர் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று கிராமத்தார்களிடமிருந்து மகஜர் வந்திருந்தும் என் அதை அரசாங்கம் கவனிக்கவில்லை ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I have already said that the bund is intact. It does not require repair."

Grants to the Voorhees College, Vellore.

* 330 *Q.*—SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY (on behalf of Sri V. K. Kannan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any grants are paid to the Voorhees College, Vellore, North Arcot, and if so, what amount?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. The amount of grant paid for 1952–53 was as follows :—

		RS.
(1) Teaching	... ...	18,228
(2) Equipment	... ...	10,000 "

Gruel centres in Chingleput district.

* 331 *Q.*—SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state the number of gruel centres which are now in existence in the district of Chingleput and in what places they are working?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" No gruel centre is now functioning in the Chingleput district."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" When there are gruel centres opened in Madras City, may I know why there are no gruel centres in Chingleput which is in the neighbourhood of Madras City? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Agricultural conditions have improved in Chingleput district. As far as the Madras City is concerned, gruel centres are necessitated more by the influx of population from districts like Chingleput also."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Are we to understand that there are no unemployed persons who are starving now in Chingleput? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" There may be some unemployed persons. But as to the question of starvation, I will not take the proposition from the hon. Member."

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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the answer given by the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue, may we, the representatives of Chingleput district in this House, request him to pay a visit to Chingleput and see whether hundreds of unemployed people are not starving to death? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Is it the idea of hon. Members that the entire population should be maintained on gruel centres? "

Constitution of ' blocks ' under the National Extension Service.

* 332 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many ' blocks ' under the National Extension Service have been constituted or are proposed to be constituted in the State; and

(*b*) what are the functions of these blocks?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The National Extension Service has been launched in 28 Blocks in the Madras State during the current financial year. About 70 more Blocks will be formed during the next two years.

" (*b*) The Blocks aim at an integrated treatment of rural life and problems designed to increase food production, improve communications and marketing, tackle disease and illiteracy and train villagers in handicrafts essential to village life."

9–20 a.m. SRI A. RATNAM :—" நேஷனல் எக்ஸ்டென்ஷன் சர்விஸ்வேலைகள் எந்தந்த இடங்களில் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டு இருக்கின்றன ? இவ்வகையில் அந்த இலாகா மக்களுக்கு பயன்படுகிறதா ? இதற்கு ஆரம்பத்தில் உத்தேச செலவு எவ்வளவு ?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, former firka development areas in each district have been taken up this year under the National Extension Scheme with one exception in Salem district where two new firkas have been added. I have already said the object of the National Extension Scheme is to improve the standard of living of the people in the villages by particularly attending to intense agricultural production and also attending to other amenities. The approximate cost of working a National Extension Block is Rs. 7·5 lakhs for three years. Out of this the recurring expenditure will be Rs. 1·5 lakhs and non-recurring expenditure Rs. 2 lakhs. Out of Rs. 7·5 lakhs, 4 lakhs would be distributed to ryots by way of loans."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Is there any proposal under the scheme to open a co-operative farm in any of our districts? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. We have been considering a proposal to start a co-operative farm in each of these blocks."